Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Previously Presented) The automatic rice cooking apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the apparatus further comprises a rice rinsing means and the controller operates control so that the rinsing means rinses rice supplied into the rice kettle by the rice supplier and then the rice boiling means boils the rice.

3. (Original) The automatic rice cooking apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the controller operates such a control where the rice rinsing by the rice rinsing means is not performed according to a setting.

4-5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) An automatic rice cooking apparatus provided with a water supplier for supplying water into a rice kettle placed at a predetermined position and a discharger for discharging water supplied into the rice kettle to the ~~outside,~~outside of the rice kettle, where a rice supplier supplies a predetermined amount of rice into the rice kettle and then a rice boiling means boils the rice, the automatic rice cooking apparatus comprising:

a rice kettle washing means for washing an inner wall of the rice kettle placed at the predetermined position after the rice boiling, the rice kettle washing means having an ultrasonic generator propagating ultrasonic waves to water supplied into the rice kettle; and

a controller for controlling the water supplier, the discharger, the rice supplier, the rice boiling means, and the rice kettle washing means.

7. (Previously Presented) The automatic rice cooking apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the ultrasonic generator has a plurality of ultrasonic transducers equally arranged around a periphery of the rice kettle.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) The automatic rice cooking apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the controller controls the discharger so that the suction port is stopped above the lower limit position when the rice kettle washing is started and then lowered gradually to reach the lower limit position when the rice kettle washing is completed.

10. (Previously Presented) The automatic rice cooking apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the rice kettle washing means serves as the rice rinsing means, and the water supplier and the discharger are in common use for the rice rinsing and the rice kettle washing.

11-19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) The automatic rice cooking apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the discharger has a suction port vertically movable to a lower limit position above an inner bottom surface of the rice kettle by a predetermined distance.

21. (Previously Presented) The automatic rice cooking apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the discharger has a suction port vertically movable to a lower limit position above an inner bottom surface of the rice kettle by a predetermined distance.

22. (New) The automatic rice cooking apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the ultrasonic generator is attached to the rice kettle so that a surface of the ultrasonic generator for ultrasonic generation contacts an outer surface of the rice kettle, and is configured to directly vibrate leftover rice attached to the inner wall of the rice kettle.

23. (New) The automatic rice cooking apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the controller is configured to operate the ultrasonic generator in a first mode for rinsing rice to be cooked and in a second mode for separating leftover rice attached to the inner wall of the rice kettle.

24. (New) The automatic rice cooking apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the controller is configured to operate the ultrasonic generator in a first mode for rinsing rice to be cooked and in a second mode for separating leftover rice attached to the inner wall of the rice kettle.